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STRIKING OF LARGE RICH ORE BODY IN OATMAN UNITED TURNS EYES OF WORLD TOWARDS OATMAN

Oatman United Strike Proves There Are Many Undeveloped Gold Deposits There and Stimulates Diamond Drilling Throughout the District.

That persistent and intelligent development of a mining property many times rewards the operators for their work and faith is evidenced in the Oatman United, where after years of systematic development one of the great mines of the Pacific coast has been brought in. Since the early days of the great war this mine has been under development, the shaft having been carried down 600 feet,

along this vein and some nice ore developed. While this development was carried on the consulting engineer of the company, J. K. Turner, advised the sinking of the shaft 200 feet and this work has been completed and drifts carried out long distances toward the rhyolite contact. In the driving of these crosscuts and drifts good ore has been encountered, but in the opinion of the writer the ore hori-

tion from the older andesite, as well as from the heavy cap flow. This has been the one moot problem that has retarded development in the Oatman field, and it is to be hoped that the Oatman United will settle the problem—lay the ghost, as it were. When the Camp Bird mine was found, its surface ores gave little promise of the big things that were found below, and it was only through diligent and aggressive development that the big things of the property were brought to light. Had the mines remained in the hands of small operators no production would have ever

and upraises. To get air through that part of the mine it is probable that a raise will be carried through to the surface close into the Elephant's Tooth, which would cool off the stopes and curtail the cost of driving air into the mine with heavy machinery.

In contact with the Oatman United, or nearly so, are the great mines of the Tom Reed and United Eastern, which properties have produced approximately \$25,000,000 in gold, rivaling some of the great mines of the country, and having paid more than \$6,000,000 in dividends. The United Eastern, the most potential property of the camp, although not having as great estate as the Tom Reed, has been a wonderfully productive property, and with its acquisition of the Big Jim, is sure to continue in production for many years to come. Development of the Big Jim, which lies close in to the side lines of the Oatman United, is going on rapidly, the management carrying development below the 600 and extracting ore from the 300 and 400 levels for milling. With the possibilities of developing the big ore body of this mine at depth the life of the United Eastern may be prolonged indefinitely. Another of the holdings of the Eastern, which is close to the sidelines of the United, is the No. 3, which is being developed at a depth of 840 feet by diamond drill operations. Just what there has been found in this property cannot be learned, but that the company will keep hard at it until something definite is learned is sure. Near the same ground is the Red Cloud of the Tom Reed, which is searching out the continuation of the United Eastern ore body. This work is believed to have brought to light the big vein with important ore bodies and these bodies can readily be developed into production. It is these sideling claims, with their potential ore bodies that give added interest to the property of the Oatman United, which practically parallels both of the productive mines and widens out the ore bearing territory to embrace a wider and more important field. With a possibility of mine development, that is, having a mineralized vein to work

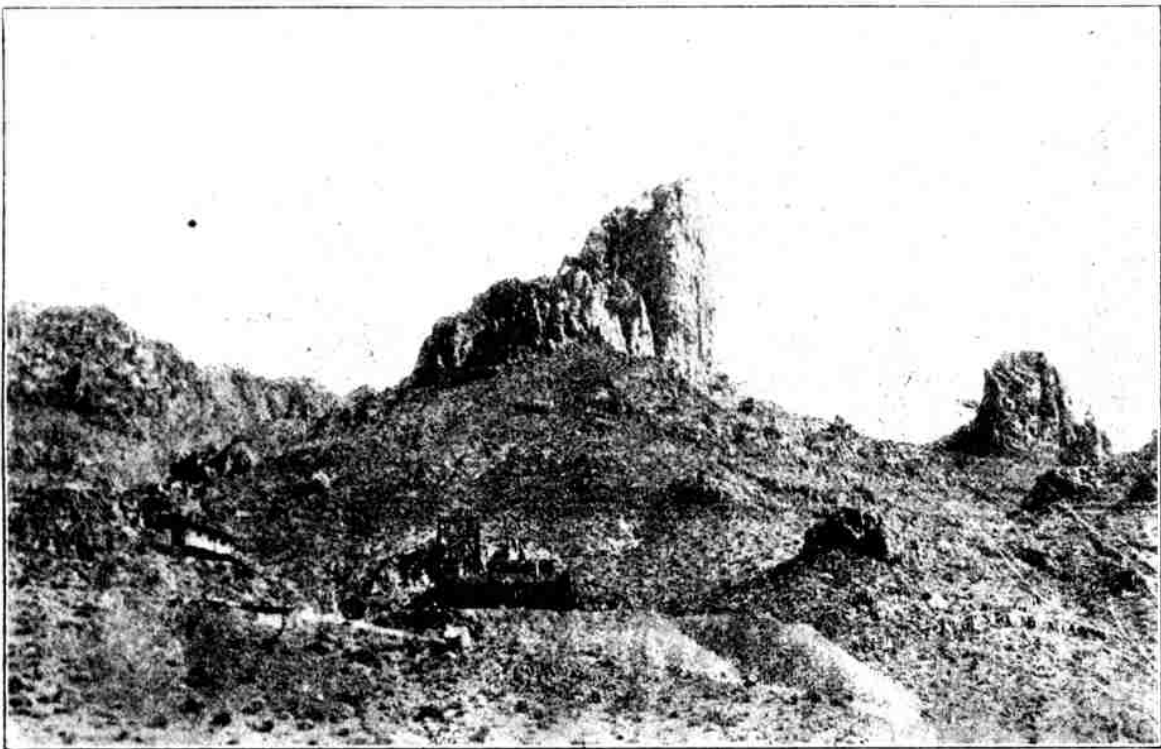
into the vein material and then drifts were driven for hundreds of feet along the veins, making a thorough search for the best ore bodies. With a thorough examination of the mine by the consulting engineer and his report thereon, the directors caused the shaft to be continued to the 600 level, where again crosscuts were run and vein development carried on for 1800 feet. Then taking up the theory that a better insight to the vein structure could be obtained by diamond drilling, contracts were let and this systematic line of development was started. The drills were driven laterally, at an angle of 70° upward and at the same angle downward, and then radiating out like the spokes in a wheel until the whole area reachable from that locality was explored. Then the drill was removed to another part of the mine and again the work of exploitation was resumed. In this way 18 or more holes were driven into the vein and the result was such that no mining man who has seen the cores and had access to the assay sheets could doubt the enormous potentiality of the property. Along the whole 1800 feet of drift the work of drilling has been carried on, the last holes showing the larger width of high grade vein material.

It will be noted that the shaft lies at a lower horizon than the vein and the crosscut from the bottom of the 600 foot shaft enters the vein at a depth below the apex of about 900 feet, or 300 feet of raise from the collar of the shaft to the outcrop under the big rhyolite intrusion. This outcrop lies to the east of the shaft and follows the general strike of the rhyolite to the northwest and into the territory of the other mining corporations, with the same possibility of commercial mineralization. The fact apparent, as we have previously observed, is that the territory of the owning corporation is the same as that of the Tom Reed and the Gold Road, but with the added value of closer alignment with the enriching influence of the massive rhyolites that have been the primary cause of gold deposition in the camp. The millions that have been produced from the sur-

millions of dollars in dividends and these veins have a width of from 8 to 14 inches and value of about \$60. This property shows a vein width in one of its diamond drill holes that is 36½ feet wide and the value is \$87. It shows a core close to the shaft that carries \$12 across 70 feet of material, which is generally classed as selicious rhyolite, but which is probably silicified andesite, there being little rhyolite so far found that carries values, although such condition is possible. Altered andesite in many localities have been known to carry gold values, and there is reason to believe that gold may be found in almost any character of rock. The old bible saying that "gold is where you find it," may be taken as truth, as should all bible remarks. In Mexico volcanic conglomerates, of the trachyte character, have been known to carry gold, even the tuff carrying heavy values. Wherefore, there is little reason to doubt that values may have impregnated the silicified rhyolites, especially where there may be considerable fracturing of the dikes.

With cheaper power and the introduction of electricity generated by the falls of the Colorado river at the great dams that are being projected along that stream, and which will be ready for transmission soon, or power from the big plant at Kingman, this mine should come into a productive stage when low costs will be the rule, and with proper milling facilities low grade ore may be milled at a profit, although there may not be any great tonnage of that character of rock to be had, the lowest value being \$12 so far as developed.

There is one feature to gold, it will always be used as a money metal and in the arts and sciences, and there is no possibility of its depreciation. Gold has always hastened the development of the country, being the forerunner of civilization and will so continue to the end of time. It was gold that brought the whole west into the limelight and caused the first white man to brave the hostile Indians and the terrors of the desert in its quest, and it was gold that built the great cities of the Pacific coast and gave



OATMAN UNITED PROPERTY

Showing the Oatman United Shaft and in the Background the Immense Rhyolite Outcrop Penetrated By the Diamond Drills.

levels carried off 1800 feet and the veins searched out by a system of diamond drilling heretofore undreamed of. Eighteen holes have been driven from stations in the big drift, laterally, far up into the veins above the level and fully 300 feet below so that the potentiality of the veins can be predecated with as much precision as though drifts and crosscuts had been carried into them. While the drift along the vein on the 600 level shows a small vein of low grade ore the shoots entered by the diamond drill show not only a large vein, but values that would create excitement in any mining camp in the world. Thirty-six feet of vein gave average values of \$87 gold, while 70 feet of material gave assay results of \$12. Assays of over \$200 were cut in the holes, and only at one point was a vein found that was not larger than in the drift.

The ore was found in contact with the massive rhyolite dike that rears itself in a mighty pinnacle that can be seen for miles and which is locally known as the Elephant's Tooth. This dike is far reaching in its influence on ore deposition in that field, although we believe that a wider range of enrichment will be found in the Oatman United property than the veins lying farther to the southwest. We have to quote from an opinion of this property, expressed by the mining editor of this paper three years ago in an article dealing with the property:

"A large amount of work has been carried on in the property of the Oatman United, the main shaft having been carried to a depth of 600 feet on a well defined vein outcropping through a large part of the Wheeler claim. At the 400 level a crosscut was carried off 750 feet to northeast, where it encountered stringers of quartz. At this point an electric hoist was installed and a winze sunk to 100 feet below the level. Drifts were run northwest and southeast on a quartz vein 18 inches thick that carried values of \$6.61. The drifts have been run several hundred feet

zon has not yet been reached in depth. The company has done a large amount of work at low costs, considering conditions of labor and high costs of supplies, not only in this district, but throughout the country. Everything that goes into mining is really double what it was four years ago and the downward trend is not yet. But as there is no possibility for lower prices within the next ten years the exploration of mines must be undertaken with that knowledge. Mr. Turner who is looking after the exploitation of the property, is one of the best known engineers in the Tonopah and Goldfield country, and it is on his advice, with his large knowledge of the Oatman field, that the company is conducting its exploratory work. The actual development operations are under the personal supervision of H. N. Hammond, and it is due to his careful handling of the work that the stockholders have been able to get so much for their money. Mr. Hammond believes the company will soon have the ore bodies lined up, that further sinking will bring to light the best that is in the property. The situation of the mines, lying as they do in the chloritic andesite and having a rhyolite contact should surely make for enrichment at depth. The property lies to the north of the big ore bearing zone of the Tom Reed, practically paralleling it, although about 600 feet away. It will be noted that in Mohave County, and we believe the rule is universal, that ore bodies lie side by side, or paralleling each other, especially where the same formation exists. Taking this as a basis, we feel that there is a reason to believe that with depth and proper development this property will be brought into production."

Taking into consideration the development of the big ore body in the Camp Bird mine, which produced more than \$20,000,000, from a vein that held its values through four distinct andesitic flows, and which increased in value with each of the flows, why is there not reason to expect produc-

Colorado mining, and it is development such as been carried on by the Oatman United that will give life and vigor to mining in not only the Oatman field, but in every part of San Francisco mining district. The company has pointed the way and at the present time there are many mines under active development that were in a state of innocuous desuetude, and would have been unable to obtain the necessary finances to carry on development had it not carried on its campaign regardless of the fat and lean years, the tight and loose money market, the high cost of labor and supplies, and every other impediment that the war day had interposed to prevent mining operations, and one and all will soon reap the benefit that this farsighted policy has brought to the district.

No mine, to our mind, is better situated for economic mining than the Oatman United. It lies between the Mother Lode and the main source of enrichment—the great rhyolite dike, and thus lying, with its great veins striking through the group, with the values ascertained with a dead certainty, no mine in all the country can rival it in possibilities. It has been opened to a depth of approximately 1100 feet and its territory is virgin, not a pound of ore having gone from it to mill and not one stope opened. Development is now being carried on with a view to opening the veins at the deepest point, carrying these drifts the full length of the mineralized zone, extending raises into the ore and opening the mine to easy access and put the property at once on a productive basis. To carry this work on the management has installed a large compressor plant and other necessary equipment for a campaign that will open levels to the 600 and connect these levels throughout with crosscuts been obtained, the development necessitating the expenditure of more than a million dollars before returns began to pour into the coffers of the company. And it was this great Camp Bird mine that gave stimulus to

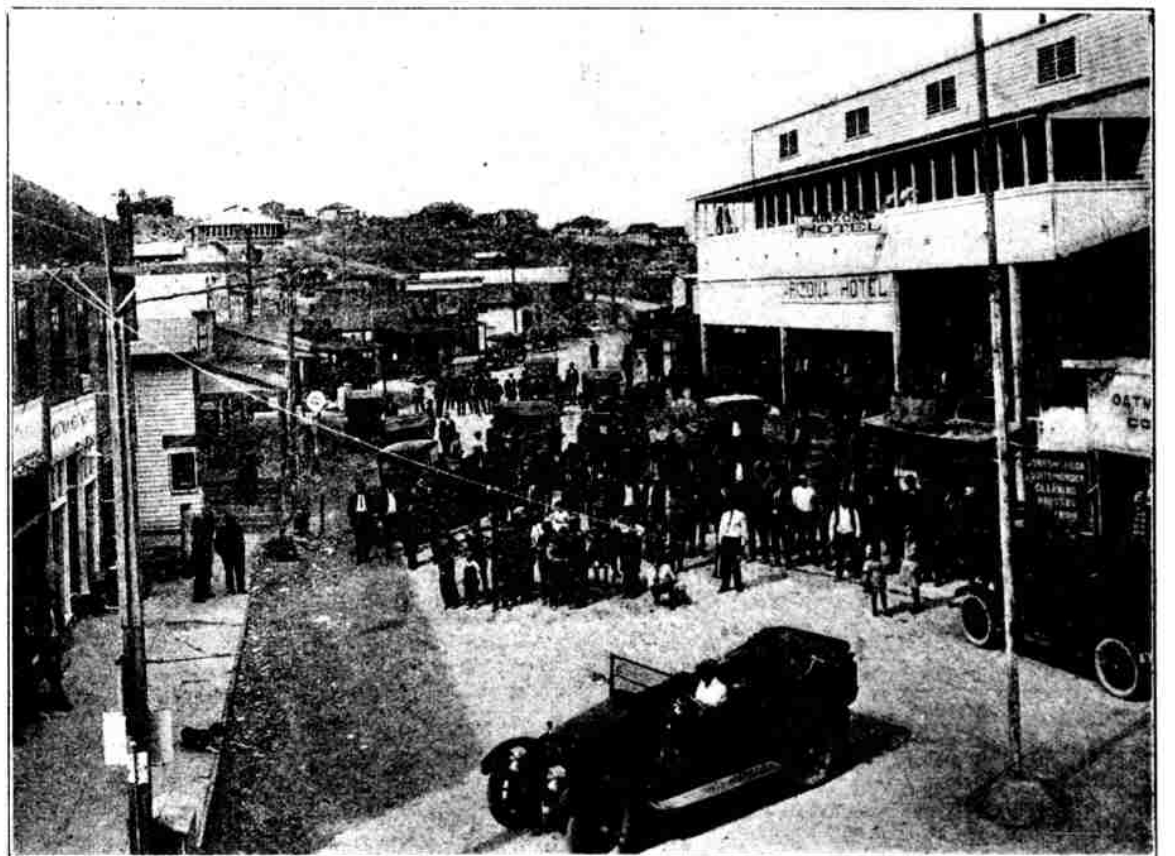
upon, it takes cash, perseverance and intelligent direction to bring in a producing property, and the Oatman United had all these qualifications, and is on the high road to productivity.

Among the broad minded operators of the Oatman field and the engineers from other districts of the country, there is widespread interest in the manner in which the development of the Oatman United has been carried on. After carrying development to the 400 level crosscuts were carried

rounding veins may be taken as indicative of what is to be expected of this property when it is in production. Veins of the size of this are unheard of in other sections of the world, only the great reefs of Africa showing this character of massive vein filling. A vein of pay ore 70 feet wide has been considered impossible, unless it be one of the great copper deposits, and there are few of these in the world. The Mines Company of America have several veins in Mexico from which they have paid

Courtesy of the Los Angeles Examiner

impetus to trade and commerce. The management of the Oatman United must be commended for the wonderful handling of its property and the bringing in of the wonderful property that it now has. It has pointed the way for an active campaign of development throughout the district that is sure to result in development of several great properties, furthering the life of the camp indefinitely. Its success is a happy one as it means many other successes predicated upon its great discovery.



"OATMAN TODAY"